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THE COURIER PUBLISHING CO.

W. MORTON SMITH, EDITOR.

PATRICK EGAN keeps to the front, any way.

IF JUDGE MAXWELL is nominated he will be elected—in the opinion of the *Fremont Herald*.

MISFORTUNE lately called on the Dorsey family, and the visit had a particularly blighting effect.

IT SEEMS that the report that the *Journal* will donate a piano stool to go with the *News* piano is unfounded.

THE *Omaha Bee* possesses one feature that is most unqualifiably unique—signed, double headed editorials by E. Rosewater.

"CHARLES SUMNER who was second only as a lawyer to C. H. Gere and G. M. Hitchcock," is the felicitous way Mr. Rosewater puts it.

JUDGING from the frequency of signed articles by J. J. Ingalls in the Sunday newspapers, the statesman out of a job must have found one.

THE Twelfth street car line has been denominated the Tri-weekly line. You go down town on it one week and try to get back the next.

IT is proper at this time to call general attention to Lincoln as a summer resort. This city is the place to come to, if you want to enjoy yourself in the heated season.

THE *Beatrice Express* published a picture of Liberty, Gage county, which moved Ross Hammond's *Fremont Tribune* to remark: "If that is Liberty, give us death."

WEDNESDAY'S RAIN at Hastings brought down a multitude of fishes. And it has rained money all over the state within the past week or so. At least that's what the farmers who are watching the corn crop say.

J. H. INMAN, formerly editor and proprietor of the *Custer County Leader* has purchased the *Kearney Journal*, and in a few days time he has succeeded in making a very interesting and highly creditable newspaper out of that publication.

THE unanimity with which the democratic press of the country refrains from extolling the administration of President Cleveland is only equalled by the frigid enthusiasm with which the republican newspapers of this state support Governor Lorenzo Crounse.

IT ISN'T much of a Nebraska town now-a-days that hasn't a canal project on hand or on foot as the case may be. In this city it might be a good idea to build a canal from the Bigelow hotel, Fourteenth and P streets to the brown stone conservatory of music at Thirtieth and L streets.

ON THE whole great religious assemblies do not conduce to general respect for the cause of religion. There is too much bickering and intolerance. The public, somehow, expects the example of church leaders and members to correspond to their precepts, and unfortunately there is generally a wide divergence between the two.

A WAIL has gone up from Chicago. The world's fair is losing money, and to save the exhibition, the management cuts off the newspaper men's passes. Perhaps this was the one thing wanting to put the big show on its feet. It is possible, however, that the people who are running the fair might with equal profit bestow some attention on the railroad companies and induce them to make a one fare rate to Chicago.

NEBRASKA DAY at the World's Fair! What a time there will be with Mr. Garneau's monumental pile of stupidity as the center of attraction! Mr. Garneau and Mr. Mobley will be on exhibition during the day and Governor Crounse and Mr. Hitchcock will dance a highland fling on the roof of our glorious state building. Specimens of the Garneau brand of crackers will be handed out to the crowd and the band will play "Listen to my Tale of Woe."

THE GENERAL assembly of the Presbyterian church, by an overwhelming vote, has decided that Dr. Charles A. Briggs is a heretic. It has often happened that the greatest heretics of one generation have become the leaders of orthodoxy of the next, and it is possible that the exclusion of Dr. Briggs may result in such steps being taken as will make him one of the leaders of a reformed Presbyterianism that will quickly come to be regarded as orthodox.

What is a heretic anyway? According to the Century dictionary a heretic is one who holds and persistently maintains an opinion or doctrine at variance with the accepted standards of any school or party, and rejected or condemned by it; one who rejects a generally accepted belief. Luther was a heretic and nearly all the great reformers were first branded with heresy. Dr. Briggs is undoubtedly guilty of the charge under a strict construction of the term; but his suspension from the ministry, nevertheless, can do no good to Presbyterianism or to the cause of religion, and it will doubtless prejudice many people. The churches are often accused of intolerance, and too often there is justice in the accusation. Conservative Presbyterians will maintain that the church could not consistently do otherwise than convict Dr. Briggs of heresy and suspend him from the ministry. Perhaps if the denominational standards by which the professor was tried were themselves secure and supported by members of the church everywhere this might be true; but the very standards that were made the measure of Dr. Briggs' orthodoxy are in jeopardy; in fact they may be said to be under the same charge as that brought against Dr. Briggs. Before expelling from the church able and devout men who refuse to accept the dogmas of the rigid Presbyterian creed, which in truth are secretly rejected by thousands of reverent churchmen, it might have been well to have waited and seen what was done with these iron clad standards of faith which were erected in the sixteenth century, and before which nineteenth century enlightenment and intelligence are asked to bow in humility. Under the circumstances the current proceedings in the Presbyterian church are the revision of the creed, are in reality a trial of the jury that tried Dr. Briggs. It is a fact that if every Presbyterian who refuses to accept every theory and proposition of the harsh and colorless Calvinism which is represented in the Westminster confession of faith were excluded from the church Dr. Briggs would find himself in a goodly company, perhaps numerically stronger than the blue stocking disciples of orthodoxy remaining loyal to the creed.

Dr. Briggs represents the liberal tendency in the Presbyterian denomination, and it is unfortunate that the general assembly should have deliberately set itself in direct opposition to this powerful element of the church. There is no question but that Dr. Briggs is just as good a Christian and as exemplary a private citizen as Dr. Patton or any of his accusers. He merely insists in using his own intelligence in reading the Scripture, and refuses to accept the dogmatism of centuries ago as unalterable standards of everlasting faith.

THE *Fremont Tribune* takes a very proper view of the Mosher case. That paper believes that Mosher should be dealt with in a manner which will adequately punish him for the crimes he has committed. "It would be a financial relief to the poor people who have lost their money through Mosher's skulduggery to have a compromise with him whereby they could get back some of their money," says the *Tribune*, "but such a compromise would have a demoralizing effect, far reaching and destructive in its tendencies. Individually considered, the deplorable condition of Mosher's victims furnishes a strong motive for permitting him to repay them and go free, but such action would be an object lesson of great corrupting influences. It would beget contempt for courts and the administration of justice among those who are not concerned in this case, that would feed the flames of anarchy and social unrest. Besides it would be an incentive to other men in positions of trust to violate it and entail further misery upon other confiding victims as much entitled to consideration as those who have suffered on Mosher's account, and so the evil effects would extend indefinitely." This is true, every word of it. It should be possible, under the circumstances, to punish Mosher as he deserves and reimburse the depositors, too. There is no question but that the bank wrecker has plenty of money to make good the depositors' claims.

THE *Call* is making a splendid fight against the vicious resorts in that part of the city known as the bottoms. We are glad to see our contemporary manifesting so much zeal, but at the risk of again incurring its dreadful displeasure, we once more ask, What would you do with these places? You are not waging a warfare of extermination, and the only result of the policy you advocate would be to drive these infamous dives from the worst part of the city and scatter them through the business and residence portions where

they would do infinitely more harm. Why not inaugurate a campaign to wipe out the evil altogether?

AFFLICTION has borne heavily upon the family of H. T. Clarke in the last year. Mrs. Clarke, the center of a loving circle, was first taken away. Then W. E. Clarke, of this city, was stricken with typhoid fever, and he was brought very near to death. Later another son, Charles, passed through an almost fatal illness, and on Thursday, after a second attack, he yielded up his life at the very threshold of a career full of promise. Charles H. Clarke, while but yet a youth had won manhood's distinction, and the future for him was bright with hope. Beloved by a family already visited with sorrow his death will be hard to bear, and the sympathy of friends everywhere will go out to the afflicted ones.

JUNE is a fateful month. Then it is that young men and young women with the stamp and seal of fashion join themselves in matrimony, and then it is that the schools and colleges have their "commencement" exercises, and young men start to edgel out success with the aid of a diploma and confidence. Perhaps, after a while, they may find that they had an exaggerated idea of the value of their sheepskin, in that it did not prove to be an infallible open sesame to the door of commercial and professional success; but none of them will ever have occasion to regret the time and effort spent in obtaining the embossed certificate.

THE decidedly favorable impression made by the university cadets at Nebraska City is another tribute to Lieutenant Pershing, whose efforts to build up the battalion have been so splendidly rewarded.

OBSERVATIONS.
There are some things which even a "reform" legislature does not reform, and as long as there are legislatures a certain manipulating of wires will go on to carry out a man's individual gain first, and that done, if he can serve his constituents without any inconvenience to himself, he will. His personal gains must be looked after first, and this he does by agreeing with other members to support their measures if they will support his. In this way many bills are advanced and their passage secured with but little opposition. However, these statesmen are not at all ways far-seeing, and once in a while a measure vigorously upheld does not reap them the benefit looked for, and when it is too late they see that they have cast a vote upon the wrong side of the question. Such was doubtless the conclusion reached by a member of the legislature, who worked for the passage of what is known in Lincoln as "The Street Railway Bill." The electric car passed a business block of his, which fact he appreciated enough to work for the bill; but very soon after the measure became a law, the street car company removed the service of cars from that street to another, and the owner of the property wonders now why he voted for the Street Railway Bill, and thinks it should not have become a law, in fact—a conclusion that came too late.

THE attendance at entertainments by local talent, of late has not been great, which indicates that these entertainments come too often to be well received. At a time when only a few good theatrical attractions and operas came to Lincoln in the course of a year, local talent was more appreciated than within the last two seasons, when the people of Lincoln really feel that the professional attractions have been very good, and which they, of course, prefer. One thing in favor of professional entertainments is that the participants are not offering tickets for sale at every corner, and where there is no local talent announced, one may safely venture out without being stopped by some friend selling tickets, or if not asked to buy, feel that he must, as he has some friend, neighbor, or relative taking part in the affair. The cause is always a good one, but the attempt to raise money by amateurs is largely overdone in Lincoln.

WHAT poet ever wrote on "The Beautiful Spring" who had ever taken any active part in spring house cleaning, or was ever within calling distance when it was going on? What man has ever lived who could beat carpets, move furniture, take down stoves and have any sentiment left for a Spring poem? It is a fact that women do not write poems on "Spring," anyway, not "Beautiful Spring." Woman's inconsistency, though great, does not go so far. Such sentiments must be left to men, and men whose minds have never been brought in contact with house cleaning experiences; men whose consciences are yet unsullied by the swearing, incident, yes, essential even to an observation of the work of house cleaning; men whose sentiment has not been uprooted from their hearts by the home meal on house cleaning days, and men of narrow experiences. LYNN.

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